

# PATROL NEWS

November-December 2021



“Over 90 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION”



See cover page 3.

# From the Staff ...

**Lt. Col. Lance M. MacLaughlin  
Asst. Superintendent**



In 1931, Americans were in the middle of the Great Depression and jobs were scarce. When the Missouri Capitol announced applications for the Missouri State Highway Patrol were being accepted, over 5,000 potential troopers responded. One of those letters was from a young man named C. Maurice Parker from Trenton, MO. The letter he wrote was opened and he was invited to report for training.

Parker was instructed to respond to the YMCA in St. Louis, MO, where the prospective troopers would live during their six weeks of training. He had only a dollar to his name and couldn't afford a bus ticket from Trenton to St. Louis, so he proceeded to hitchhike his way there. Parker used his last dollar to purchase doughnuts, coffee, and enough Bull Durham smoking tobacco to last during training. After sleeping on a bench at Union Station, he reported to the YMCA at 7 a.m. the following morning.

After Trooper Parker graduated from the training, he was assigned to Troop B. His route covered about 165 miles that he had to drive each day. His career took him from Troop B to Troop F then General Headquarters. Throughout his years of service, he was part of manhunts, natural disasters, and the 1954 prison riot. He investigated an untold number of traffic crashes and answered countless requests for assistance. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Navy, then returned to the Patrol. He retired as a major at the end of 1966.

About his choice of professions, Major Parker said, "There may be professions with a more lucrative salary than being a highway patrolman, however, it is a position of trust, and you have the personal satisfaction of serving mankind. I can honestly say I have enjoyed each and every day I have been a Missouri state trooper."

I think his words still apply. Every employee is in a position of trust and service. As we celebrate the agency's 90th anniversary, we tip our hat to those who came before us. We honor their legacy by embracing the Patrol's Vision, Mission, and Values. The agency has changed much since 1931, yet the same high standards and values remain. I sincerely appreciate every employee and the role they play in making Missouri a great place to live or visit.

Happy 90th anniversary Missouri State Highway Patrol!

The official publication of the  
Missouri State Highway Patrol

Celebrating Over 50 Years Of News

# PATROL NEWS

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State of Missouri

Sandra K. Karsten, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Eric T. Olson, Superintendent  
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*The Patrol News is published by the  
Public Information & Education Division  
of the Missouri State Highway Patrol  
in the interest of all active and retired  
personnel. (573) 526-6115*

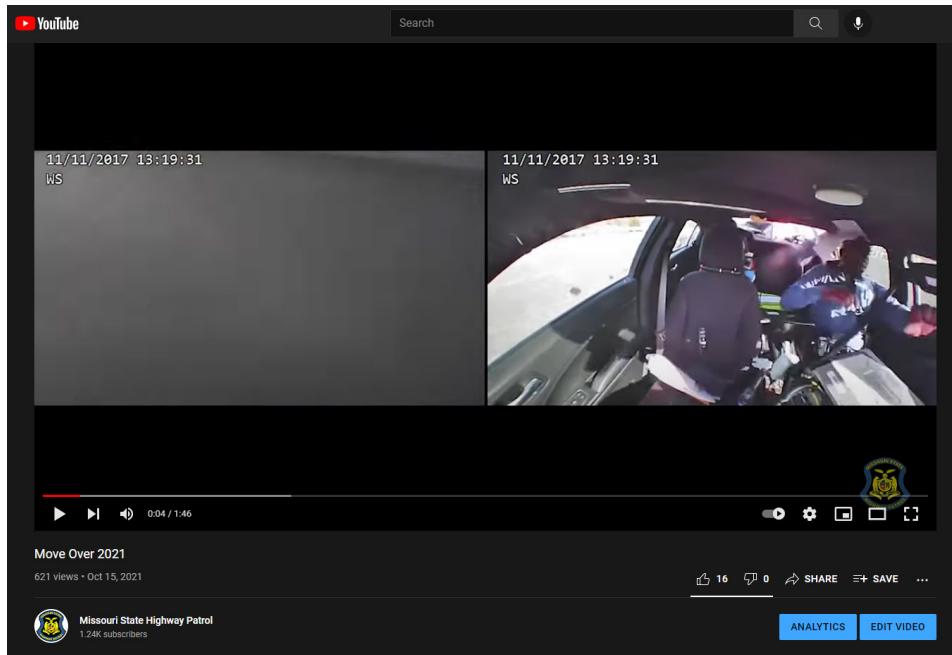
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# PATROL NEWS

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“Over 90 YEARS OF SERVICE & PROTECTION”

Volume 56 • Number 3

## Social Media Snapshot



*The third Saturday in October is National Move Over Day. To emphasize the importance of drivers observing the “Move Over” law, the Patrol created a short video with a mashup of dash camera footage showing what happens when they don’t. The video was shared on the Patrol’s YouTube channel.*

# You're Invited

The Missouri State Highway Patrol Awards Ceremony and The MASTERS Banquet will be held Saturday, April 30, 2022, at the Holiday Inn Executive Center, 2200 I-70 Drive S.W., Columbia, MO. The awards banquet is open to all MASTERS members, MSHP employees, and their guest/spouse. It is anticipated the cost will be \$40 per person this year. The banquet begins with a social hour at 5:30 p.m. followed immediately by dinner, then concluding with the presentation of awards. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Redel at (573) 526-6159 or [mary.redel@mshp.dps](mailto:mary.redel@mshp.dps).

## Cover

CITS I Chris Wilde (Q/CJIS) smacks a ball into the outfield. See story on pages 6-7.

# APCO Recognizes MSHP's Use Of Technology

By Chief Oper. Roger Martin (Q/CommD)

The Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials awarded its 2020 Technology Leadership Award for Large Organization to the Missouri State Highway Patrol. The presentation took place at the August 2021 APCO International Conference and Expo in San Antonio, Texas.

The award recognized the Patrol's Communications Division employees for defining and addressing a problem brought to their attention in 2019. When division employees learned troopers assigned to the Gaming Division and working within each casino in Missouri were unable to communicate from within the casino building to the nine troop radio rooms via portable radios they developed and implemented a solution. Division staff coordinated a plan that entailed utilization of the WAVE application on a mobile device to communicate with troop radio rooms over the Missouri Statewide Interoperability Network radio system. WAVE is a subscription-based group communication service that connects across different devices, networks, and locations for instant communications. Initial testing of the application using iPhones and purchased Motorola LTE devices that



*(l to r) Chief Oper. Rocky Ponder, Chief Oper. Roger Martin, Director Corey Chaney, Section Chief Lori Enderle, and Comm. Tech. III Ryan Boeckman are pictured with APCO's 2020 Leadership Award for Large Organization (all Q/CommD).*

provide push-to-talk communication occurred from January through April 2019.

The initial testing proved successful. Thus, mobile devices were deployed to Gaming Division members. This process included setting up each device and providing training to the troopers receiving them. Communication Division employees fielded the application and the Motorola push-to-

talk device from June 2019 to February 2020.

The success of this project led the Patrol's Command Staff, each troop command staff, K9 units, pilots, and troopers assigned to guard our governor to test the application and devices. This innovative use of available technologies relates directly to Missouri statutes charging the Highway Patrol to provide law enforcement and other protective services.

## Encounter Leaves An Impression

By Sgt. Mike A. Mitchell (I)

The interactions between troopers and the public we serve are numerous and, oftentimes, brief. However, there are occasions where even a brief interaction leaves an impression. While serving on my first Missouri State Fair detail, I had such an experience after a visit with young Brooklyn Enos. Brooklyn enjoyed her visit with Otto-The Talking Car. As the family was leaving, her dad shared a rubber bracelet inscribed, "believeinbrooklyn.com cure SMA."

I learned that SMA was spinal muscular atrophy, a disease that attacks the nervous system. Even with the various medical instruments attached to her stroller, Brooklyn lit up the pavilion during her visit. That was in 2018, and the experience left a lasting impression on me.

In 2021, I was again helping Otto at the state fair. One day, a special visitor returned to the pavilion. It was Brooklyn! She was doing much better and able to sit up on her own. I was glad Brooklyn came back for a visit and thankful to see her progress. I look forward to seeing Brooklyn and her family next year, because I *believe in Brooklyn*.



*The Enos family returned to see Otto-The Talking Car in 2021.*

# Missouri Celebrates 200 Years!

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)

On August 10, 2021, Missouri celebrated 200 years of statehood. Special events took place over a period of months, culminating in a Bicentennial Parade and Inaugural Ball on September 18, 2021. The Patrol detail included 136 employees during the parade and evening event.

"The Bicentennial Parade and Inaugural Ball was a historic, once in a lifetime event celebrated by Missouri citizens of all ages and from every corner of the state," said Captain Norm A. Murphy (Q/FOB). "Members of the Missouri State Highway Patrol assigned to the detail did an outstanding job of representing the agency and serving the citizens of Missouri. To witness the professionalism and dedication displayed by our members was inspiring. This event was the last formal assignment of my 34-year career and perhaps the most rewarding!"



Mr. Joseph Weber loaned this 1966 Ford Custom 500 to the Patrol for the parade. Capt. John Hotz (Q/PIED) drove with Col. Eric Olson as a passenger.



Gov. Mike Parson and First Lady Teresa Parson greet people watching the parade. Capt. Dusty Hoffman (Q/GSD) walks alongside them.



Historical Patrol door decals (the first, "STATE PATROL," and current) highlighted the agency's 90 years of service and protection.



Capt. Norm Murphy (Q/FOB) and Major Greg Smith (Q/FOB) pause for a photo.



Lt. Tycee Williams (C) keeps a watchful eye on the Inaugural Ball attendees.

# CJIS Takes Championship At MSHP Softball Tournament

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)

There was a new champ in town, and it was called Q/CJIS! The 2021 MSHP Softball Tournament welcomed eight teams on a hot August 28 to Binder Sports Complex in Jefferson City, MO. This year's tournament welcomed sponsor assistance from the Missouri State Troopers Association. The day included loud cheering and some good-natured jeering, as everyone enjoyed the competition.

This was the first year the Crime Laboratory Division entered its own team in the tournament. Four of their players had never played softball. The team cheered when one first-time player caught a flyball and another player made it to first base ... for the first time ever. The team had a great time according to Coach/Criminalist III Janet L. Davis, and even loaned some seasoned players to another team. "I'm a new coach who relied on the players the whole way, I had to ask them lots of questions. " said Coach Davis. "We even had a cheering section of family, friends, and coworkers that was twice as big as our team. We had a lot of fun, but it was a little toasty out there!"

It had been awhile since a team of CJIS employees formed. Coach CITS II Chris S. Wilde said when he saw the flyer, he sent an email out to the division and then started collecting players. Several of the CJIS players play on other teams, but they didn't play

*Continued on the next page.*



*Trainer/Auditor I Jordan Eichholz (Q/CJIS) runs for home plate.*



*Cpl. Matt Yoder (A) catches a fly ball.*

## Thanks, Coach!

Listed are the coaches & teams that competed in the 2021 MSHP Softball Tournament:

Q/CJIS — CITS I Chris S. Wilde  
Q/Lab — Criminalist III Janet L. Davis  
Troop F Bombers — Sgt. Morgan B. Patterson  
Troop A — Sgt. Adam V. Dillon  
Troop C — Sgt. Eric R. Kessler  
Troop B — Cpl. Terry J. Adams  
Troop D — Cpl. Levi E. Rawson  
Q/Gaming — Tpr. Parrish M. Lutz



*Troop A and Q/CJIS team members greet one another after the game.*

# — Softball

Continued from page 6.

together prior to the tournament. "We had one batting practice," said Coach Wilde. Only four players showed up to the practice. "We didn't really know who would play where. The lineup was made that day."

"Coming into the championship game, we were worried about having to play Troop A again," said Coach Chris S. Wilde. "We had beaten them in the first game in extra innings and knew they were a good team. We were down early, but after a run-filled fifth inning were able to come away with the victory. Next year, after experiencing this championship, we'll be even more prepared and eager to repeat."

The double elimination tournament eventually became a battle between Troop A and Troop F to see which would play Q/CJIS in the championship game. Troop A came out on top of that game, sliding Troop F into third place for the tournament. During the championship game, everyone was happy when clouds moved in and made it a little cooler. Troop A took the lead early, but Q/CJIS developed the hottest bats and won the championship 18 to 8.

"Don't worry, Troop A," said Coach Wilde. "You'll have a chance to battle the Q/CJIS team again. We plan

to come back for a repeat. We need to keep the trophy at Q in CJIS."



Third baseman Sgt. Bryan Hamerle (A) tagged the bag then threw the ball to second in the game between Troop A and Troop F.



The 2021 champions were the Q/CJIS team, including (front row, l to r) CJIS Tech. III Jaelin Harris, CIT III Colby Luebert, Trainer/Auditor I Jordan Eichholz, CITS II Chad Mengwasser, Prog. Sprv. Drew Benner; (back row, l to r) CITS II Chris Wilde, Mr. Paul Moyer (spouse of CITS II Jessica Moyer), CITS I Deion Hughes, CIT Sprv. II Tyler Plassmeyer, CITS II Brad Carr, Trainer/Auditor III Kyle Vaught, and CITS II Caleb Kemna.



Troop A's team finished in second place and included (front row, l to r) Sgt. Bryan Hamerle, Cpl. Emilio Villanueva, Cpl. Matt Yoder, Tpr. Nick Perez, Sgt. Adam Dillon, Lt. Barry Kumpf; (back row, l to r) Tpr. Nathan Schaffer (Q/DDCC), Tpr. Nick Ott, retired Sgt. Dale Knox, Tpr. Ben Owens, Tpr. Zach Thomas.



Troop F Bombers fought hard at the tournament. The team finished in third place and included (front row, l to r) Cpl. Marylyn Dickens, Sgt. Morgan Patterson, Chief Oper. James Parks, Cpl. Chad North, Tpr. Nolan Bax, Cpl. Derek Shikles; (back row, l to r) Sgt. David Fouch, Lt. Casey Utterback, Tpr. Jake Vislay, Tpr. Jake McKinney, and Scale Maint. Tech. Chief Dylan Bartlett (Q/CVE).

# Gov. Parson Presents Medal of Valor To Cpl. Ashby

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)

Congratulations to Corporal Jason A. Ashby (Q/DDCC), who accepted a Missouri Medal of Valor from Governor Michael L. Parson on September 1, 2021. Cpl. Ashby was honored for his actions the evening of July 25, 2020, while he was off duty.

On July 25, 2020, Cpl. Ashby and four other people were on a boat traveling near the 18-mile marker of the Lake of the Ozarks. Another boat struck their boat and Cpl. Ashby lost consciousness for an unknown period of time. When he regained consciousness, he and the boat's driver checked the other passengers. The mother died in the crash. The boat operator assisted the father and Cpl. Ashby checked the juvenile. When he could not get a pulse, he began cardiopulmonary resuscitation on her. Cpl. Ashby called out to a resident instructing them to request ambulances and a helicopter for injured passengers. He also asked the boat operator to move them to a nearby dock. Cpl. Ashby removed the juvenile from the boat and continued CPR until he got a pulse. He also assisted with carrying the juvenile up a steep flight of steps to emergency medical services personnel. Cpl. Ashby was later transported to a hospital where he was treated for injuries sustained in the crash. Both the girl and her father have each made remarkable recoveries. The operator of the other vessel was charged with boating while intoxicated.

The governor presented Missouri Medal of Valor, Governor's Medal, and Public Safety Civilian Partnership awards during the September 1 ceremony. "At the end of the day, no matter what your title or rank is, you are a public servant," said Gov. Parson. "We are honoring people who did some heroic things. Sometimes, in Missouri, we take this for granted."



Pictured are (l to r) Col. Eric Olson, Brad Steinkuehler, Hayden Steinkuehler, Gov. Michael Parson, Cpl. Jason Ashby (Q/DDCC), and Scott Comia. The Steinkuehlers and Mr. Comia were on the boat with Cpl. Ashby at the time of the crash.

## Tpr. McCallister Looks Beyond The Stop

**Cpl. Levi E. Rawson (D)**

On the evening of September 21, 2021, Trooper Kyle A. McCallister (D) was observing traffic in the median on Interstate 44 in Lawrence County. An eastbound GMC Acadia was traveling 84 mph when it traveled past him. Thus, a traffic stop was conducted. Tpr. McCallister approached on the passenger side and

contacted the occupants. The driver advised Tpr. McCallister he was aware he was traveling above the speed limit, but thought he was driving 78 mph. While speaking with the driver and passenger, Tpr. McCallister observed indicators of criminal activity and requested to search the vehicle. He obtained permission and looked at the boxes in the back seat. Through a small gap in one of the boxes, Tpr. McCallister observed a package which appeared to be marijuana. He confirmed his suspicions with the driver. When the trooper asked if all the boxes were full of the contraband, the driver stated, "Yeah." The driver and occupant were arrested and transported to the Lawrence County Jail, where they were charged with drug trafficking-first degree. The contraband had an estimated street value of \$300,000. Great job looking beyond the initial stop, Tpr. McCallister!



Tpr. Kyle McCallister (D) stands near marijuana located during a traffic stop.

# Burr, Kasischke Accept DPS Award

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)

Sergeant Walter L. Burr and Corporal Kotter J. Kasischke (D) accepted the September 2021 DPS Sworn Team Members of the Month for their courageous rescues of four people from dangerous floodwater in McDonald County in Southwest Missouri. The rescues occurred on March 13, 2021, after two days of heavy rain. Two vehicles had entered the flooded Buffalo Creek at Missouri Highway 43 and the two occupants were caught in the floodwater.

One victim was clinging to a tree, the other was stranded on top of his vehicle. The McDonald County emergency management director and a volunteer firefighter launched a boat and rescued the man clinging to the tree, but their boat's engine then failed.

Sgt. Burr and Cpl. Kasischke launched an inflatable boat into the swift-moving flood water and first rescued the man on top of his vehicle. They then transferred the victim in the disabled boat into their craft and transported the man to safety on shore. The troopers then went back and used their inflatable boat to push the director's boat to where it could be secured to a tree. Sgt. Burr and Cpl. Kasischke then winched that boat out of the river and onto its trailer.

Shortly after, Sgt. Burr and Cpl. Kasischke were dispatched again and rescued two more people. A man and a teenager were clinging to a tree in swift moving water after they attempted to cross a low water bridge over the Elk River.

At the September 27, 2021, award presentation, Major Greg Smith (Q/FOB) commended Sgt. Burr and Sgt. Kasischke, "Swift water rescues are inherently dangerous. In a matter of just a few hours, they worked as a team to bravely rescue four people in treacherous conditions. It was very treacherous duty and outstanding work. My hat is off to you."



Cpl. Kotter Kasischke and Sgt. Walter Burr pause for a photo after the award presentation naming them September 2021 DPS Sworn Team Members of the Month.

"Thank you for your flexibility," said Colonel Eric T. Olson. "You must cringe when you see a weather forecast like that. The flash flooding situations are hard to predict. Time and time again I'm impressed by how you help people, your resourcefulness, how you adapt to different roles saving people and towing boats, etc." He presented each officer with a superinten-

dent's challenge coin saying he wanted to emphasize how much he appreciated them and their work.

Department of Public Safety Director Sandra K. Karsten presented the award certificate and extended her appreciation.

Congratulations, Sgt. Burr and Cpl. Kasischke!

Failures, repeated failures, are finger posts on the road to achievement. One fails forward toward success.

— C.S. Lewis, writer/lay theologian

M-I-Z

Z-O-U!

# Long-standing Tradition Continues

*By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)*

Each fall since 1931, in the heat, cold, rain, or snow, troopers have journeyed to Columbia, MO, to provide traffic enforcement and security during University of Missouri home football games. This year, they could be found at intersections, on the field, in the stands, and providing escorts. The 2021 MIZZOU football detail included 67 members from Troops A, B, C, F, I, and General Headquarters. Lieutenant Brandon M. White (F) served as the detail commander, overseeing operations during the detail. It was his second year serving in this capacity. He was joined by assistant officer-in-charge Sergeant Shawn A. Brazas (F), who stepped into that role after Sergeant Matt J. Broniec was promoted to lieutenant and transferred to Budget and Procurement Division.

“It was an honor to work with so many great people, each of whom played a significant role in the detail’s success,” said Lt. White. “Construction at the Columbia Regional Airport brought several changes from past operations. We were responsible for escorting the Tigers or visiting football teams to and from St. Louis Lambert International Airport. Our officers did an outstanding job adapting to the changes and maintaining a high level of service.”



*Sgt. Dave Rudloff (F) helped provide field security during the game.*



*Cpl. Nathan Wallace (F) chats with attendees.*



*Lt. Brandon White (F), who served as the detail commander of the 2021 Mizzou football detail, talks traffic with Sgt. Trois Maloney (Q/TND).*

# — MIZZOU

Continued from page 10.

*Tpr. Brandon Harris (F) and Tpr. Tyler O'Brien (F) wait to assist pedestrians crossing Stadium Blvd. to attend the game.*



*Cpl. Emilio Villaneuva (A) keeps a watchful eye during a Mizzou football game.*



*Fireworks punctuated the end of the national anthem at the game.*



*This article published in the Columbia Missourian on November 16, 1931, tells how nine troopers traveled after the 1st Recruit Class graduation (November 14, 1931) to Columbia, MO. The new troopers were assigned to assist with traffic at the Mizzou vs. Oklahoma homecoming game. This would have been the Patrol's first assignment, and the request is thought to have originated with Sgt. Benjamin O. Booth, who was from Columbia.*

## STATE TROOPERS BEGIN WORK HERE

### Missouri Highway Patrol Is Organized, Trained and Equipped

Nine of the forty-nine troopers who graduated from the Missouri state highway patrol training school were given their first assignment at the Homecoming game here Saturday. Trooper Ben Booth, former Columbia traffic policeman, had charge of the patrol. The other forty patrolmen, the acting assistant superintendent and the five captains went to their homes for a week's furlough.

This was the first task performed by the graduating class since the commencement exercises Saturday morning at St. Louis. The patrolmen will assemble at Jefferson City for active duty on the 7940 miles of Missouri highways by Nov. 21. The force will be divided among the six sections of the state.

This patrol was made possible through the efforts of the Automobile Club of Missouri. The law provides for 115 patrolmen, and ten captains. That number will be reached as the state appropriations justify it. Lewis Kline of Bethany is the superintendent of the patrol. He was appointed by Gov. Canfield. The administrative supervision is vested in the hands of the State Highway Commission.

The members of the patrol are dressed in rather unusual uniforms. The shirts are of dark blue, blouses of sky-blue, dark blue riding breeches, black boots, black ties and visor caps of light blue. Each patrolman carries a .38-caliber revolver. The patrol officers wear almost the same uniform except that their shirts are white and their boots are tan. On their shoulders they wear the military insignia of their rank. During bad weather short overcoats will be worn.

Motorcycles will be used on the pavement and Ford roadsters on the gravel roads. Each of the officers has a car.

The troopers have been schooled in the rudiments of courtesy and good judgment. As Missouri has no definite speed limit, fast driving will not be a cause for arrest, unless the driving is reckless. Military discipline will be enforced on the troopers. The men are said to have been taught to cultivate initiative, obedience to orders, and the ability to smile at all times. The maximum pay of the patrolman is \$150 a month, and that of an officer is \$200 a month.

# Congratulations On Your Retirement!

**Jan D. Scheibeler**  
Comp. Info. Tech. Spec. II  
Q/CJISD

*Retired September 1, 2021.  
29 years, seven months  
of dedicated service.*



**Pam M. Johnson**  
Criminalist Sprv.  
Q/CLD

*Retired September 1, 2021.  
31 years, two months  
of dedicated service.*



**Jim L. Baker**  
Chief Technician  
Q/CommD

*Retired October 1, 2021.  
10 years, three months  
of dedicated service.*



**Ron T. Burgett Jr.**  
Trooper  
Troop D

*Retired October 1, 2021.  
29 years, one month  
of dedicated service.*



**Steve B. Ferrier**  
Captain  
Troop C

*Retired October 1, 2021.  
31 years, nine months  
of dedicated service.*



**Perry C.  
Hazelwood III**  
Sergeant  
Troop E

*Retired October 1, 2021.  
32 years, three months  
of dedicated service.*



**Paul J. Kempke**  
Sergeant  
Q/FOB

*Retired October 1, 2021.  
26 years, nine months  
of dedicated service.*



**Lorna Y. White**  
DE Sprv.  
Troop C

*Retired October 1, 2021  
28 years, four months  
of dedicated service.*



# Congratulations On Your Retirement!

**Mike F. Wyss**  
Corporal  
Q/GD

*Retired October 1, 2021.  
25 years, nine months  
of dedicated service.*



**Dan E. Caldwell**  
Sergeant  
Troop C

*Retired November 1, 2021.  
31 years, 10 months  
of dedicated service.*



**Tom J. Hearn**  
DE Sprv.  
Troop A

*Retired November 1, 2021.  
21 years, five months  
of dedicated service.*



**Dave L. Johnston**  
Corporal  
Troop E

*Retired November 1, 2021.  
29 years, four months  
of dedicated service.*



**Brent A. Miller**  
Assistant Director  
Q/BPD

*Retired November 1, 2021.  
35 years, eight months  
of dedicated service.*



**Christopher L. Patton**  
Sergeant  
Troop C

*Retired November 1, 2021.  
26 years, 10 months  
of dedicated service.*



**John W. Twehous**  
Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II  
Troop F

*Retired November 1, 2021.  
12 years, 11 months  
of dedicated service.*



# Suspect Turns Himself In After AMBER Alert

By Lead Journalist/Co-Editor Paul Murphy  
The AMBER Advocate

Three men burst into a St. Joseph, MO, home, took a two-year-old girl at gunpoint, and then fled with the child. Police say the noncustodial father had a physical confrontation with the mother before leaving. The alleged abduction took place on March 15, 2021, at 3:30 p.m. Authorities received the call about the kidnapping seven minutes later.

At 4:20 p.m., Communication Operator III Melanie A. Stallsworth and Communications Operator II Kristen L. Bartles (both H) took a call about the armed home invasion and child abduction and immediately notified those responsible for issuing alerts.

A conference call with the St. Joseph Police Department was quickly established and an AMBER Alert requested. Missouri AMBER Alert Coordinator, Captain Corey J. Schoeneberg (F), said recent events helped inform the decision about whether to issue an alert. This case involved a noncustodial father and occurred less than one month after a separate incident in which a custodial parent killed two of his children before committing suicide.

“Making a judgement call as to what is a credible threat, reasonable threat, sufficient evidence of harm, or whatever the language used may be. is not an easy call; and sometimes it is best to err on the side of caution,” said Capt. Schoeneberg. “Like all cases, a judgment call was made quickly based on the information available.”

## AMBER Alert Issued

Alternate AMBER Alert Coordinator Lieutenant Kevin J. Hunter (F) was on duty and discussed with his team the scope and content of the Wireless Emergency Alert. A regional activation was approved, and the AMBER Alert issued at 4:34 p.m., just 14 minutes after the request was made.

Missouri partners with Twitter and the WEA message includes a uniform resource locator (URL). The link di-

rects the public to Twitter where the public can access the AMBER Alert bulletin.

The Buchanan County Sheriff’s Department assisted in the investigation and discovered the suspect’s vehicle – but it was empty. The suspect learned from his former employer about the AMBER Alert and he voluntarily surrendered himself and the child at the St. Joseph Police Department at 5:21 p.m., only 47 minutes after the alert was issued. The AMBER Alert was canceled three minutes later.

## Lessons Learned

“Our immediate thoughts revolve around the relevance of the AMBER Alert in this case. However, the fact the child was safely recovered and returned to the mother provides a sense of relief,” said Capt. Schoeneberg.

“You always have a huge knot in your stomach every time a child goes missing and you want to make sure that you find that child as quickly as possible—safe, healthy, and unharmed,” Buchanan County Sheriff Bill Puett shared with reporters.

St. Joseph Police Detective Sergeant Jason Strong added that it can be difficult to distinguish whether a child custody situation constitutes an emergency situation and warrants an AMBER Alert – but he is grateful the alert was issued.

“Being able to engage the public through media, and with alerts and billboards, it’s very helpful,” said Strong. “Statistically, the longer that a child goes missing, the worse the outcome could be. So, we want to get a child back as soon as possible.”

After each AMBER Alert, a review takes place on what worked and what can be improved to get a full perspective on the incident. Capt. Schoeneberg said they reached the conclusion the alert went to a broader area than necessary, but, overall, the alert worked exactly as it should.

“This case highlights the role communications personnel, even when not directly involved in the investigation, can have on the notification process,” said Capt. Schoeneberg. “Time is such a critical component of any missing child, and communications personnel realized the circumstances may meet the criteria for an AMBER Alert. This decision saved precious minutes and expedited contact with AMBER Alert program coordinators.”

## Recognition For A Job Well Done

On April 28, the Missouri State Highway Patrol honored the two communications operators for their roles in saving the child. Comm. Oper. II Bartles said their training at the Patrol’s Law Enforcement Academy was critical to their ability to act quickly.

“While I was down there, we had [Assistant Chief Operator Paula Heckes (F)] come to speak with my class, basically saying in the event of any kind of possible alert, notify them immediately,” said Comm. Oper. II Bartles.

Comm. Oper. III Stallsworth said she is grateful communications operators are being recognized for their role in AMBER Alerts.

“You don’t have to carry a gun, you don’t have to be out in the field,” said Comm. Oper. III Stallsworth. “You can still serve our public; you can still serve law enforcement and not be one of the guys on the front line.”

Looking back, Capt. Schoeneberg said every AMBER Alert partner in Missouri has the same goal: “The motivation of all those involved is based on the fundamental duty to safeguard lives and protect the innocent.”

*[Mr. Paul Murphy is an associate of the AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program. This article was reprinted from the 47th edition of the AMBER Advocate Newsletter, <https://amberadvocate.org>, with permission from the AATTAP.]*

# Deaths

## Mark W. Trader



Mark W. Trader, 61, of Miramar Beach, FL, died Saturday, July 24, 2021. On November 3, 1979, he married Donna Lyngar. Mark was appointed to the Patrol on July 1, 1990, as a member of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Recruit Class. He served in the Troop I, Rolla, MO, Troop D, Springfield, MO, areas. He was promoted to corporal on April 1, 1996; sergeant on July 25, 2000. He retired December 1, 2014. Mark is survived by his wife, Donna, their two children, three grandchildren, his father, brother, sister, sister-in-law, and many extended family members and friends. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Trader family.

## Sharon K. Rains



Sharon Kay Rains, 64, of Henley, MO, died Saturday August 14, 2021, at Jefferson City Manor in Jefferson City, MO. Sharon worked as an AFIS entry operator in the Criminal Justice Information Services Division at General Headquarters for eight years, retiring on April 3, 2005. She is survived by her husband, Joe Bradley Rains, two children, four grandchildren, and siblings. The family suggests memorials may be sent to Mt. Pleasant Cemetery (near Eldon, MO). To learn more about Sharon, visit the Phillips Funeral Home of Eldon, MO, website <https://www.pfheldon.com/obituary/Sharon-Rains>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Rains family.

## Harry L. Williams



Harry L. Williams, 92, of Lebanon, TN, died Wednesday, August 18, 2021. Harry served in the United States Marine Corps prior to joining the Patrol on May 24, 1958. He was a member of the 17th Recruit Class. During his career, he was assigned to Neosho, MO, and Springfield, MO. His last assignment was supervising Troop D's Motor Vehicle Inspection Unit for 16 years. Harry retired as a sergeant on August 30, 1986. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Williams family.

# Sympathy

*Our deepest sympathy goes to the following personnel who have lost a member of their family:*

Asst. Dir. Gary L. Campbell (Q/DVS)  
- mother  
Cpl. Kevin C. Morris (D) - father  
Tpr. Ethan R. Mulkey (A) - mother  
CDL Exam. Aud. Bill S. Cantrell (D) -  
mother  
Ret. Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II Ed W.  
Wagganer - wife  
Ret. Sgt. Walter D. Ryan - wife  
Sgt. Bill W. Lowe (A) - sister  
Ret. Cpl. Robert L. Trotter - wife  
Tpr. Corey D. Parrott (A) - mother

Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II J. Doug  
White (Q/FFD) - father  
Accounting Technician Carla J.  
Siebeneck (Q/FFD) - father  
Personnel Rec. Clerk III Justin D.  
White (Q/HRD) - grandfather  
Cpl. Jeff S. Baird (D) - father  
Tpr. Joshua S. Baird (D) - grandfather  
DE III Jessica S. Baird-Stansberry (D)  
- grandfather  
Ret. Tech. Support Mgr. Mark A.  
Huhn - father

Cpl. Jim E. Thuss (A) - father-in-law  
Tpr. Barbara A. Collins (Q/GD) -  
mother  
Ret. Fiscal & Budg. Analyst III Jan L.  
Amsinger - husband  
Sgt. Richard D. Owens (E) - father  
Ret. CVE Sprv. II H. Steve Carlyle -  
mother  
Ret. Major Dale A. Schmidt - mother  
Cpl. Scott E. Pritzel (H) - mother  
Sgt. Mark P. McClendon (Q/DDCC)  
- father

# Deaths

## Lloyd A. Vitt



Lloyd A. Vitt, 78, of Potosi, MO, died Wednesday, August 18, 2021. Lloyd joined the Patrol as a member of the 28th Recruit Class and attended Academy training in Rolla, MO. He served in the Troop C area throughout his career and retired September 1, 1994, as a corporal. Lloyd is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Martha, four daughters, 11 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends. He was preceded in death by his son. To learn more about Lloyd, visit the Moore Funeral Home website <https://moorefunerals.com/book-of-memories/4701723/Vitt-Lloyd/index.php>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Vitt family.

## George L. Norwood



George L. Norwood, 94, died Sunday, September 5, 2021. Soon after high school, George enlisted in the

United States Army and found himself in the middle of the Pacific when World War II ended. He served in post-war Philippines in the Army Air Corps. His last few days of service were in the newly formed United States Air Force. George was appointed to the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a member of the 13th Recruit Class in 1952. He retired as a sergeant in 1987 after almost 35 years of dedicated service. George is survived by his two sons, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Juanita, and his daughter. The family suggests memorials be made to Book of Mormon Foundation or the Salvation Army. To learn more about George, visit the Lee's Summit Tribune at <https://lstripune.net/index.php/2021/09/20/george-lee-norwood/>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Norwood family.

## Jake J. McCall



Jake McCall Jr., 89, died at his home Tuesday, September 14, 2021. Jake served in the United States Navy during the Korean War. After returning home from the Navy, Jake farmed, was in business with Phillips Petroleum for 15 years, and owned and operated several businesses. Jake was employed as a commercial vehicle enforcement inspector with Missouri State Highway Patrol for 16 years and retired in 1994. Survivors include his wife of 67 years, Betty Ann McCall, of Rock Port; a daughter, two grand-

children, seven great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. Jake was preceded in death by his son. The family suggests memorials may be made to English Grove Cemetery, Rock Port Baptist Church, or Rock Port Volunteer Fire Department. To learn more about Jake, visit the Minter Funeral Chapels website at <https://minterfuneralchapel.com/obituaries/jake-mccall-jr/1158/>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the McCall family.

## Rickey R. Baird



Rickey R. Baird, 75, of Carthage, MO, died Monday, September 20, 2021, at Freeman West Hospital in Joplin, MO. He worked for the Missouri State Highway Patrol for 32 years in Southwest Missouri, retiring in 2000 in Jasper County as a sergeant. Rick is survived by two sons, three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and additional family members. He was preceded in death by his wife, Glenda Baird. The family suggests memorial gifts be made to Carthage Humane Society in care of Knell Mortuary. To learn more about Rick, visit the Knell Mortuary website at <https://www.knellsmortuary.com/obituaries/Rickey-Ray-Rick-Baird?obId=22409484>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Baird family.

# Deaths

## Lawrence C. White



Lawrence C. White, 78, of Saint Louis, MO, died Monday, September 20, 2021. Larry is survived by his wife, Margot, three children, five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and his siblings. He served in the U.S. Army from 1962-1964. In 1974, he entered the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy as a member of the 43rd Recruit Class. During his career, Larry was assigned to the Aircraft Division as a pilot. He served on the Governor's Task Force investigating state prisons. He was an instrumental member of the Patrol's Bench Mark Committee, which awarded the contract to develop the Automated Fingerprint Identification System in 1988. He was also the first director of the Professional Standards Division. Larry achieved the rank of major and was serving as the bureau commander for the Technical Services Bureau at the time of his retirement in 1998. The family suggests memorials be sent to the MASTERS, 780 County Road 383, Whitewater, MO 63785. To learn more about Larry, visit the Baue website <https://www.baue.com/obit/lawrence-c-larry-white/>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the White family.

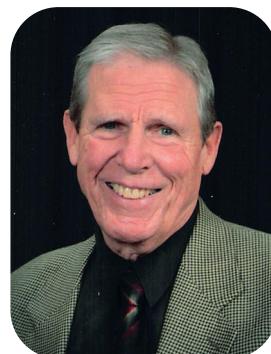
## Sharon R. Ryan



Sharon R. Ryan, 71, died Tuesday, September 21, 2021. Survivors include her husband, Walter Ryan, four step-children, 12 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and many other family members and friends. Both Sharon and Walter were dedicated employees of the Missouri State Highway Patrol for 30+ years. Sharon retired as a senior secretary at Troop C in 2000. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Alzheimer's Association. To read learn more, visit the Bopp Chapel website <https://www.boppchapel.com/obituaries/Sharon-Ruth-Ryan?obId=22443550#obituaryInfo>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Ryan family.

States Army in Vietnam. He worked as a building and grounds supervisor at Troop E Headquarters, Poplar Bluff, MO, from 2006 until 2014. Dick is survived by his loving wife of 27 years, Nicky, two brothers, a sister, a sister-in-law, and many additional family members and friends. To learn more about Dick, visit the Ruegg Funeral Home website <https://www.rueggfuneralhomes.com/obituary/Richard-DeVoto>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the DeVoto family.

## Ronald L. Hedrick



Ronald Lee Hedrick, 79, of Willard, MO, died Monday, October 11, 2021. He attended St. Louis Baptist College and Meramec Community College where he studied commercial art. In 1965, Ron enlisted in the National Guard Reserves, and served six years. Ron started working for the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a commercial artist on January 1, 1967. He felt the call to become a Missouri state trooper and graduated from the Missouri Highway Patrol's Law Enforcement Academy in May 1971. Ron retired as a sergeant in 1998. Ron is survived by and will be deeply missed by his wife of 54 years, Barbara, two sons, four grandchildren (all of whom were his favorite), and many other relatives and friends. To learn more about Ron, visit the Green-Continued on the next page.

## Richard F. DeVoto



Richard "Dick" F. DeVoto, 75, of Williamsville, MO, died Sunday, September 26, 2021, at his residence. Dick proudly served in the United

# Deaths

## Ronald A. Mull

### — Hedrick

Continued from page 17.

lawn Funeral Home website <https://greenlawnfuneralhome.com/obituary/mr-ronald-l-hedrick/>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Hedrick family.

### Elvin L. Bland



Elvin L. Bland II, 45 of Joplin, MO, died at his home Tuesday, October 12, 2021. He was born in Joplin, Missouri to Elvin Bland and Katherine (Nash) Bland on August 2, 1976. Elvin worked for the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a commercial vehicle inspector at the time of his death. He loved to hunt, fish, spend time with his family and, especially, QT with Duck. Elvin married Cara Lynn (Freeman) Bland on May 8, 2012, at Laverne's Chapel in Miami, OK, and he loved her with all his heart. He is survived by his wife, three daughters, his mother, brothers, sisters, and friends. Elvin was preceded in death by his father, a daughter, and a sibling. The family suggests memorials may be made to start a college fund for Cara and Elvin's daughter, Duck. To learn more about Elvin, visit the Simpson Funeral Home website at <http://www.simpsonfh.com/obituaries/Elvin-Leslie-Bland-II?obId=22649636>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Bland family.



Ronald A. Mull, 89, of Belton, MO, died Saturday, Oct 16, 2021. At the age of 19, Ronald enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1951. He retired in 1972. Ronald then went to work as a driver examiner for the Missouri State Highway Patrol in 1973. He retired in 1995. The family suggests memorial contributions may be made to Heartland Christian School. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Joyce Pauline Mull, three children, six grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and many loving nieces and nephews. To learn more about Ronald, visit the Longview Funeral Home website <https://www.longviewfuneral-home.com/lvw/obituary/Ronald-Mull>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Mull family.

### Thelbert J. Thomas



Thelbert J. Thomas, 79, died October 24, 2021. After high school, he enlisted in the United States Army and served until his honorable discharge. Thelbert joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol

as a commercial vehicle inspector and was assigned to Troop A's weigh station in Kearney, MO. In 1977, he became a driver examiner. He was assigned to the Raytown Driver Examination Station until he retired on May 1, 2000. Thelbert is survived by his wife of 57 years, Alice, one daughter, two sons, eight grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, and a host of extended family members and friends. To learn more about Thelbert, visit the E.S. Eley & Sons Funeral Chapel website at <https://www.eleyfuneral-home.com/obituary/thelbert-thomas>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Thomas family.

### Deborah J. Burton



Deborah J. (Jones) Burton, 66, of Poplar Bluff, MO, died peacefully after a brief battle with cancer Friday, October 29, 2021. She died at home surrounded by her family. Debbie is survived by her husband of 28 years, Roger Burton, one son, two stepdaughters, five grandchildren, her parents, and additional family members. Debbie joined the Patrol on October 1, 1985, as a driver examiner. She retired January 1, 2009, as chief driver examiner of Troop E, Poplar Bluff. The family suggests memorials be made in Debbie's name to UCAN. To learn more about Debbie, visit the Willow Ridge Funeral and Cremation Services website at <https://www.willowridgefcs.com/obituary/DeborahDebbie-Burton>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Burton family.

# Deaths

## Francis A. "Bud" Jones



Francis A. "Bud" Jones, 100, of Wildwood, MO and a former Jefferson City resident, died Monday,

November 1, 2021, at his daughter's home. Bud joined the Army Air Corps Cadet Program in 1942. He flew 117 fighter-bomber missions in 1944, in direct support of ground forces through the Italian Campaign. For all of this, he received numerous awards and medals. He returned to the U.S. in late 1944 and was an Air Corps Flight Instructor until he returned to civilian life in 1945. He retired from the Air Force Reserve at age 60 as a lieutenant colonel. Bud was appointed to the Missouri State Highway Patrol in November 1951 as a member of the 12th Recruit Class. He served first in Troop C, Kirkwood, MO, then transferred to Troop F, Jefferson City, where he was a road officer and flew as an incidental pilot for eight years. He was the pilot providing information

during the Missouri State Penitentiary Riot in 1954. He progressed through the ranks from trooper to captain while assigned to Troop F. In 1977, he was promoted to major and transferred to General Headquarters. He retired in 1981 as chief of Field Operations. Bud is survived by his daughter, two granddaughters, and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 65 years, Dee, in 2016; and his son and daughter-in-law in 1986. The family suggests memorials be made to the Greater St. Louis Honor Flight or the Gary Sinise Foundation. To learn more about Bud, visit the Freeman Mortuary website at <https://www.freemanmortuary.com/>. The Patrol family extends its sincerest condolences to the Jones family.

# Thank You

The family of retired Sergeant John R. Noyes would like to express their appreciation and sincerest thanks for the outpouring of messages and heartfelt condolences following his death. John had the highest regard for the Missouri Highway Patrol family and would have been as touched by your kind words as we were.

Best regards,  
Sharlyn Bogner (John's wife)

• • •

My family and I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and expressions of sympathy following the death of our father/grandfather, James W. White. We would also like to thank all those that attended the visitation and funeral service. The thoughtfulness and support our family received is greatly appreciated and will be forever remembered.

Sincerely,  
Accounting Technician Carla J. Siebeneck (Q/FFD)

Bldg. & Grnds. Maint. II J. Doug White (Q/FFD)  
Pers. Rec. Clerk III Justin D. White (Q/HRD)

• • •

My wife Melody and I would like to thank everyone who sent cards, texts or calls with their heartfelt condolences about the death of Melody's dad.

Sincerely,  
Cpl. Jim E. & Mrs. Melody Thuss (A)

• • •

On behalf of my family, I would like to say thank you to all those who sent cards, texts, or calls with their heartfelt condolences regarding the unexpected death of my sister. I appreciate you thinking of my family!

Sgt. Bill W. Lowe (A)

• • •

My family and I are so thankful for the outpouring of love and support this week after Dad's passing. The kind words, cards, and your presence are a testament of Dad's impact on those he called family and friends. Dad was obedient to God's calling, and I am so blessed to have had such a role model and example of a man after God's heart. Thank you for sharing memories and special thoughts of Dad. We will miss him dearly.

Blessing upon blessing for your families,

Lt. Douglas J. Hedrick (H) and family

• • •

I want to take this opportunity to thank the past and present Patrol family for the many calls, cards, and words of encouragement passed on to me and my family on the loss of my wife, Cecilia. As it is not possible to thank each individual personally, know that your kindness will remain in our hearts.

God bless and stay safe,  
Ret. Major. Bonnie A. Schmitz

Recruiting: 1-800-796-7000 • Email: [mshppied@mshp.dps.mo.gov](mailto:mshppied@mshp.dps.mo.gov) • Home Page: <http://www.statepatrol.dps.mo.gov> [www.facebook.com/motrooper](https://www.facebook.com/motrooper)  
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YouTube

# Jones: 'Honored To Represent Patrol'

By Public Info. Spec. III Cheryl D. Cobb (Q/PIED)

Caruthersville PD and Pemiscot County Sheriff's Department were traveling to Washington, D.C., to attend National Police Week 2021. The group invited Capt. Ben C. Jones (Q/RCOD) to accompany them and represent the Patrol. After completing an SHP-938 and gaining the necessary approval, he packed a suitcase. The group took two vehicles and set out for Washington, D.C., on October 12, 2021. It was great weather, and they had a good time during the 13-hour road trip each way.

During the six-day event, they attended the police motorcycle parade, candlelight vigil, and memorial service to honor the nation's fallen officers. When the names of Missouri's fallen heroes were read, representatives of the Missouri's law enforcement contingent stood and saluted throughout.

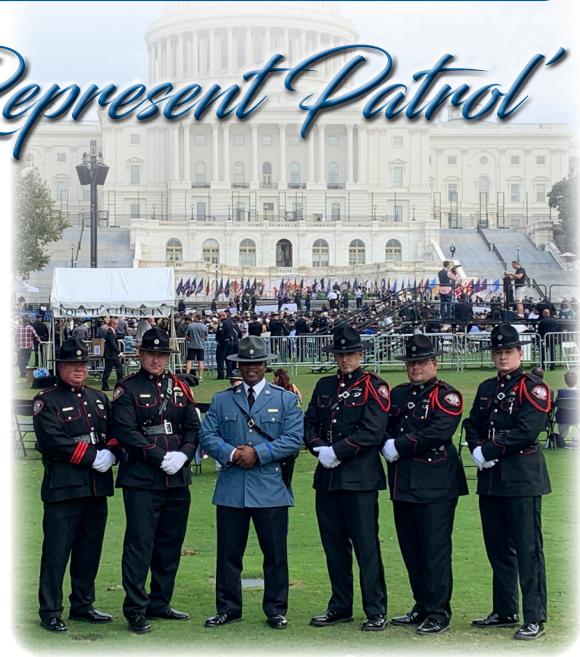
Because they drove, the group was able to visit a few special locations in our nation's capitol. They were honored to visit the Pentagon's museum remembering the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack there, and watch the changing of

the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Capt. Jones was especially touched to see the tomb of his uncle, Charles Edward Jones, a decorated Vietnam veteran, who died in 2016 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

"I'm always honored to represent the Patrol in any facet," said Capt. Jones. "I also appreciated being able to attend events where law enforcement officers from other departments were present. The opportunity to network and support one another is invaluable."

Capt. Jones said while talking with officers from around the nation, he took the opportunity to promote the Patrol. "I love this agency. Any chance I get, I talk about what the Patrol has to offer. I also listened. It's good to know how other agencies are doing, what's working and what isn't."

This year's event was moved from May to October as a precaution dur-



Capt. Ben Jones (Q/RCOD) stands with members of the Green County Sheriff's Department in front of the U.S. Capitol.

ing COVID. "Any time is appropriate to remember and honor Missouri's fallen heroes, and more specifically the Patrol's 31 troopers killed in the line of duty," said Capt. Jones. "There were thousands of officers and family members at the events that week. Our focus was and will remain honoring our heroes' ultimate sacrifice."